



## Right of Peoples to Peace

### International Day of Peace: UNESCO Open Lecture Series vol.1

### Regional Interactive Panel Discussion and West Gate Remembrance



*“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed”*  
(Preamble to UNESCO Constitution, 1945)

22 September 2014, Monday

Conference Room 1, UN Gigiri Compound, Nairobi, Kenya

9:00 - 12:00: Official Launch

#### What's going on?

UNESCO Regional Office in Eastern Africa, in partnership with sister agencies in the UN (Resident Coordinators Office in Kenya and Somalia, OHCHR, UNDP, UNEP, UNIC, UN Women, UNSOM), is organizing a regional interactive panel discussion to celebrate the International Day of Peace. A discussion will take place surrounding this year's theme, *The Right of Peoples to Peace* with distinguished panel of speakers and commentators, and university students from Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. General public is also invited to take part in this event through twitter, which your comment will be incorporated into overall discussion.

The international Day of Peace is observed on 21 September each year, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/282. In that resolution, the Assembly declared that the Day should be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence and it invited all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities on the Day. This year's celebrations also mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN General Assembly *Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace*, in 1984.

#### Invited guests, speakers and commentators:

**Hon. Justice Dr. Willy Mutunga**, The Chief Justice, Republic of Kenya

**Mr. Binyavanga Wainaina**, Kenyan author, journalist and winner of Caine Prize for African Writing

**Mr. Boniface Mwangi**, An award-winning Kenya photojournalist

**Mr. Mussie Hailu**, Regional Director of URI for Africa and Rep of URI to UNECA and AUC

**Mr. Owuor Arunga**, A jazz trumpeter. Member of Macklemore & Ryan Lewis's band and established solo musician

**Mr. Raphael Obonyo**, Co-founder and Member, Advisory Council of the Youth Congress

**Mr. Uchenna Emelonye**, Senior Adviser, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Ms. Yvonne Maingi**, Tunza Youth Advisor – UNEP

**Ms. Tegla Chepkite Leroupe** Kenyan long-distance athlete and global spokeswoman for peace, women's rights and education

\*Moderated by **Abdul Rahman Lamin**, Social and Human Sciences Specialist, UNESCO

#### Audience

The audience will be made up of primarily university students and youth organizations from Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. Students from 5 universities in Kenya (Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Daystar University, Kenyatta University, University of Nairobi, United States International University) will constitute a live audience at the UN Complex in Nairobi. The participants from Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda will be linked via Video Teleconferencing for live engagement.

#### Have your say!

Together with invited guests, speakers and commentators, and university students and members of youth organizations, you can have your say by joining us on:



<https://twitter.com/unicnairobi>

@peacedayEA



<https://www.facebook.com/UNIC.NairobiKenya>

**The key message:** *What are some of the challenges to building and sustaining peace? This year, we're celebrating the 30th anniversary of the UNGA Declaration on the Right of People to Peace. The Intl. Day of Peace this year is a joint UN initiative aimed at exploring the relationship between peace and human rights. The culture of peace in East Africa is a key to the growth and sustainability of the region. We have to manage diversity and peacefully resolve differences. Peace is your right.*

## Event Programme

# Regional Interactive Panel Discussion and West Gate Remembrance

09:00 – 9:45 **Registration**

9:45 – 10:00 **Westgate Remembrance**

10:05 **Welcome Remarks and UN Secretary General’s Message** - Director General, UNON  
**Poetry Reading and Peace Song** - UNESCO Youth Forum  
**Illustration of UNESCO Youth Mobile Initiative on Peace** - The Dev School

**Interactive Panel Discussion** (With Live Audiences in Nairobi, Juba, Kampala and Mogadishu) –  
*Moderated by **Abdul Rahman Lamin**, Social and Human Sciences Specialist, UNESCO*

**Hon. Justice Dr. Willy Mutunga**, Chief Justice, Republic of Kenya

**Mr. Uchenna Emelonye**, Senior Adviser, UN OHCHR

**Ms. Yvonne Maingi**, Tunza Youth Advisor, UNEP

**Ms. Tegla Loroupe**, Athlete & Peace Ambassador

**Mr. Binyavanga Wainaina**, Writer and Journalist

### Summary of Discussion

12:50 **Closing Remarks** – UN Resident Coordinator

13:00 **Refreshment**

### Contact information:

#### Nairobi venue

General: Irene Mwakesi, UNIC National Information Officer, [irene.mwakesi@unon.org](mailto:irene.mwakesi@unon.org), +254 20 762 21102  
 Media and outreach: Masakazu Shibata, UNESCO Public Information Officer, [m.shibata@unesco.org](mailto:m.shibata@unesco.org) +254 (0)70 321 6390  
 Culture of Peace Programme: Abdul Rahman Lamin, UNESCO Social and Human Sciences Specialist, [ar.lamin@unesco.org](mailto:ar.lamin@unesco.org)  
 Peace Education Programme: Vick Ikobwa, UNESCO Education National Programme Officer, [v.ikobwa@unesco.org](mailto:v.ikobwa@unesco.org)

#### Juba venue

Ellen Lekka, UNESCO Culture Specialist, [e.lekka@unesco.org](mailto:e.lekka@unesco.org)

#### Kampala venue

Charles Obiero, UNESCO Project Officer, [c.obiero@unesco.org](mailto:c.obiero@unesco.org)

#### Mogadishu venue

Keishamaza Rukikaire, UNSOM, Public Information Officer, [rukikaire@un.org](mailto:rukikaire@un.org)

## Supporting Information

### UNESCO and Culture of Peace and Non-Violence

The culture of peace and non-violence is a commitment to peace-building, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, peace education, education for non-violence, tolerance, acceptance, mutual respect, intercultural and interfaith dialogue and reconciliation.

#### **UNESCO Constitution: Building peace in the minds of men and women**

For over 60 years, UNESCO took over that mission in conformity with its Constitution which asserts that, “since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed”. In this regard, the same Constitution highlights that “a peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments would not be a peace which could secure the unanimous, lasting and sincere support of the peoples of the world, and that the peace must therefore be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind”. This mandate has gifted the Organization with a longstanding experience in promoting mutual understanding while fighting discrimination, intolerance and violence.

#### **The Programme on Culture of Peace and Non-Violence**

In its essence, the culture of peace and non-violence is a commitment to peace-building, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, peace education, education for non-violence, tolerance, acceptance, mutual respect, intercultural and interfaith dialogue and reconciliation. It is a conceptual as well as a normative framework envisaged to inspire thoughts and actions of everyone. Therefore, it requires cognitive as well as the emotional abilities to grapple with our own situation in a rapidly changing world as well as with the emerging world society. This aim entails not just more factual knowledge, but also the broadening of our consciousness and the willingness to develop a new awareness, a new way of being in this world, a new “mental mapping”.

As stated by the UNESCO Director-General, “Peace is more than the absence of war, it is living together with our differences – of sex, race, language, religion or culture – while furthering universal respect for justice and human rights on which such coexistence depends”. Therefore, peace is a choice to be made on each situation, an everyday life decision. With a view to foster conditions where such every day peace is a tangible reality for all, UNESCO has established a new Programme to enhance a culture of peace and non-violence at global, regional, national and local levels, which will aim at the following results:

- Fundamental principles of peace universally shared to be appropriated by different cultures, thanks to a genuine dialogue and mainstreamed into public policies;
- Tension between universality and particularism, cultural identities and citizenship in a globalized world analyzed and better understood;
- Everyday Peace to be conceived as an everyday living experience, not only in periods of conflict, but also in ordinary times.

For more information - <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/bureau-of-strategic-planning/themes/culture-of-peace-and-non-violence/>

### ***UNESCO’s work on Education for Peace and Non-violence***

The promotion of peace through education is at the heart of UNESCO’s mission. As stated in its constitution of 1945, UNESCO advances international peace and the common welfare of humanity through educational, scientific and cultural relations between peoples of the world. The goal of UNESCO’s education programmes and partnerships is the development of comprehensive systems of education that embrace the values of human rights, intercultural understanding and tolerance. Education for peace and non-violence promotes the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that reflect and inspire these values.

Education for non-violence and peace includes training, skills and information directed towards cultivating a culture of peace based on human rights principles. This education not only provides knowledge about a culture of peace, but also imparts the skills and attitudes necessary to defuse and recognize potential conflicts, and those needed to actively promote and establish a culture of peace and non-violence.

The learning objectives of peace education may include an understanding of the manifestations of violence, the development of capacities to respond constructively to that violence and specific knowledge of alternatives to violence. Two fundamental concepts of peace education are respect and skills. Respect refers to the development of respect for self and for others; skills refer to specific communication, cooperation and behavioral skills used in conflict situations.

UNESCO’s activities, projects and partners in education for peace and non-violence work with a holistic approach to establish and nurture the respect and skills needed to build a culture of peace.

For more information - <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0016/001607/160787e.pdf>

### ***Other UNESCO Resources***

- Message by Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of International Day of Peace: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002295/229567E.pdf>
- About UN High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace: [http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/events/culture\\_of\\_peace.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/events/culture_of_peace.shtml)
- Education and peace (UNESCO Publications): <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/bureau-of-strategic-planning/themes/culture-of-peace-and-non-violence/selected-references/education-and-peace/>
- Pan-African Forum and Culture of Peace (UNESCO publication): <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002255/225572e.pdf>
- Brochure “A new cultural policy agenda for development and mutual understanding. Key arguments for a strong commitment to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue” (2011) : <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002147/214747e.pdf>